

## ABSTRACT

Systems for suturing a tissue layer having two sides with a suture by releasably retaining at least a portion of the suture in a stationary position on one side of the tissue layer. The portion of the suture is retrieved through the tissue layer from the opposite side whereby the suture is drawn from one side to the opposite side. Systems for suturing the wall of a tubular graft having two sides is also provided using a suture by releasably retaining at least a portion of the suture on one side of the wall. The portion of the length of suture is retrieved through the wall of the graft to the opposite side of the wall.